

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for controlling the flow of a working medium through an expansion device in a closed heating system which also includes a condenser, a pump and a boiler. The expansion device is a helical screw rotor expander that has an inlet port with an inlet line connected thereto, and an outlet port. The expansion device drives an energy producing device, such as a generator. The helical screw rotor expander has an intermediate pressure port between the inlet port and the outlet port, and a branch line is connected between the intermediate pressure port and a branching point in the inlet line. A valve is in the branch line. The flow of working medium through the valve to the intermediate pressure port is controlled as a function of a state parameter.